West Sussex County Council Planning Services

Response to consultation (planning application): ARCHAEOLOGY

TO: Adur and Worthing Councils (FAO Peter Barnett, Development Management)

Cc.: Development Management, Adur and Worthing Councils

DATE OF RESPONSE: 16th October 2017

REFERENCE: AWDM/1265/17

LOCATION: Land East of Deacon Way Worthing West Sussex

PROPOSAL: Restoration of upper section of the Broadwater Brook tributary of the Teville Stream involving the excavation of a new channel, construction of three silt traps, part infill of existing channel and restoration of surrounding land

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RECOMMENDATION: No objection on archaeological grounds is raised to the proposals subject to suitable archaeological mitigation measures. These mitigation measures should be provided for through the use of a suitable planning condition, as follows:-

Planning condition (archaeology)

A programme of archaeological mitigation work will be carried out on the site in accordance with the submitted Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation. The programme of archaeological work will involve:-

(a) On-site archaeological investigation prior to the commencement of construction works;
(b) Additional on-site archaeological mitigation during construction works arising from (a) where considered appropriate by the Local Planning Authority;
(c) Off-site analysis reporting publishing and archiving of the findings of (a) and (b).

REASON: To enable mitigation of the impact of development upon heritage assets of archaeological interest.

Policies: - National Planning Policy Framework, Paragraph 141; Adur District Local Plan 1996, Saved Policy AB1 (Archaeology); Worthing Core Strategy 2011, Strategic Objective 6 (conservation and enhancement of historic assets); Submission Adur Local Plan 2016, Policies 16 & 17 (Historic Environment);

SUMMARY:

- The proposals have been the subject of pre-application archaeological advice discussions between the applicant and West Sussex County Council.
- The proposals would involve adverse impact upon deposits of prehistoric and later archaeological interest expected to be of less than national significance.

- The adverse impact can be mitigated reasonably and proportionately, by means of archaeological investigation and recording.
- The applicant has made provision for an archaeological mitigation strategy, details of which are set out in the submitted *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation.*
- The proposed mitigation strategy, to be implemented primarily before the beginning of construction works, is acceptable.
- The proposed mitigation should be provided for by means of a suitable planning condition (see above).

COMMENTS:

The applicant, the applicant's archaeological consultant (Archaeology South-East) and West Sussex County Council held pre-application archaeological advice discussions in May and August 2017.

As stated in the Environment Statement ((ES) 1.4, last paragraph and 7.7 (Archaeology)), the proposals may involve adverse impacts upon archaeological and geoarchaeological features of (potentially) regional and local significance, through earthworks and excavations.

These features comprise the Ice Age and post-Ice Age river gravels, sands and silts of the Teville Stream valley and Broadwater Brook, which may contain artefacts of early prehistoric to medieval date and pollen and microfossils relevant to the changing river/ sea inlet environment of this period.

The adverse impact can be mitigated reasonably and proportionately, by means of archaeological investigation and recording.

During pre-application discussions, a proposed mitigation strategy was discussed. Before the beginning of construction works, this strategy will involve (principally) the archaeological investigation and recording of the river deposits, by means of test pits and boreholes, and the subsequent off-site analysis and reporting of the test pit and borehole samples and findings.

The proposed pre-construction and analysis/ reporting works are set out in the submitted *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation.*

During construction works, further on-site mitigation (e.g. a watching brief by an archaeologist) is not currently considered necessary (ES 1.4, 7.9 Table 9, Summary of proposed mitigation measures). However, the potential need for further mitigation will be informed by the pre-construction investigation findings, and included in the project plan as appropriate and deemed necessary by the Local Planning Authority.

With the proposed archaeological mitigation works in place, provided for by a suitable planning condition, the proposals will be acceptable on archaeological grounds.

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